**Paper 1 Causes of Korean War Key**

**1.** (a)

* North Korea invaded South Korea
* North Korea disregarded UN Security Council call to stop fighting & withdraw north of 38th parallel
* Communism has resorted to full scale warfare, not simply subversion, to conquer countries

**1.** (b)

* Bear represents Russia & mask probably China indicating their aggression is responsible for invasion of South Korea
* The old American soldier is preparing to stop Communist aggression in Korea symbolizing American intervention in the Korean War—Containment Policy

**2.**

Source C:

* The Korean War was a) war of postcolonial succession, b) revolutionary war of liberation—a) & b) indicate the civil war aspects—and c) war of global, great power rivalry—reflecting intervention of USSR, China & USA
* Not simply proxy war of superpowers

Source A:

* Source A supports Source C’s claim that the Korean War was a proxy war of great power rivalry because it shows the US becoming involved in the Korean War partially as a response to Communist aggression
* Source A primarily references this aspect of the Korean War with only a passing reference to a civil war and no support for the claim that the Korean War was a postcolonial succession

Source E:

* Source E supports Source C’s claim that the Korean War was a civil war because of Kim Il-sung’s desire to invade South Korea.
* While it emphasizes that Kim was the initiator, the roles played by Stalin and Mao suggest that aspects of the war was part of a global, great power rivalry
* This is further emphasized by the conclusions made about America’s likely decision not to intervene in South Korean if Kim invaded it.
* The document addresses or supports the claim that the Korean War was a war of postcolonial succession, at least from Communist perspective, with reference that Kim wanted to liberate his brethren

**3.**

SOURCE B:

ORIGIN:

* Extract of a speech from Sec. of State Dean Acheson in January 1950 five months **prior** to the start of the Korean War

PURPOSE:

* Acheson’s speech was given to state US defense policy in the Pacific region and how this policy relates to US relations there
* **NOT content**

VALUE:

* The excerpt comes from Acheson’s famous Perimeter Speech, which is often cited as a factor influencing the Communist world actions & decisions that led to the invasion of South Korea by Kim Il-sung.
* This source is highly valuable for a historian considering US foreign policy in the Pacific prior to the start of the Korean War.
* Its value is enhanced because it comes from the US Sec. of State indicating that this was official US policy, publicly stated.
* Because it was a public statement, the excerpt may help give insight to perceptions of US intentions derived by the USSR, China, North Korea, and South Korea.

LIMITATIONS:

* The source does not give us insight into other factors that influenced US actions in the Pacific region such as the state of relations between the US and specific countries.
* This means it does not indicate whether US policy as stated in the source applied equally and completely in concert with these statements in all instances.
* The source does not give insight into the thinking process of USSR, China, or North Korea that led to the invasion of South Korea.
* Because the speech was given five months prior to the start of the Korean War, it does not provide information on the decision-making by the Truman Administration that led to US intervention in Korea.

SORCE E:

ORIGIN:

* This excerpt comes from Nikita Khrushchev’s memoirs, which were edited by Edward Crenshaw and published in 1971 after Khrushchev’s death.
* **NOT bibliographic citation**

PURPOSE:

* Like all memoirs, Khrushchev wrote this book to give his account of the history of the USSR and his role in its history and the background to his actions and decisions as a major political figure in the USSR.

VALUE:

* Khrushchev’s positions in the USSR gave him access to information most people would not have.
* This account gives good insight into actions, perceptions, and ideas that would not otherwise be known to western historians, especially prior to the opening of Soviet era archives.
* The source provides a look at what Stalin was thinking prior to the Korean War.
* This provides some understanding of why Kim Il-sung was allowed to invade South Korea by both Stalin and Mao.

LIMITATIONS:

* Like all memoirs, the information comes from with several cautions primarily, that memoirs tend to put its subject in a favorable positions as possible.
* There are factors to consider such as confirmation bias and the need to justify actions taken by the author.
* The primary purpose of the memoir is Khrushchev’s life, not the Korean War. Therefore, it’s focus is not on the Korean War, but a general history of the USSR from Khrushchev’s perspective.
* Given Khrushchev’s De-Stalinization policy, how does that affect Khrushchev’s pronouncements of Stalin’s actions.
* On the other hand, at this point in his life, would Khrushchev still be influenced by the goals and purposed of De-Stalinization or would he be more likely to be more objective (given his own subjectivity) about Stalin.